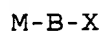


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1 A method for selectively enriching/removing a serum albumin  
5 from a mixture of other compounds by contacting said mixture  
with a ligand (= X), said ligand

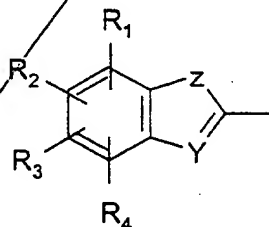
a) having affinity for and enabling binding of the serum  
albumin and

b) being attached via a spacer (= B) to a base matrix (= M')  
insoluble in the aqueous media used, the matrix with the  
attached ligand being represented by



where M is the matrix, B the spacer and X the affinity  
ligand, with the provision that M may contain further groups  
X linked via a spacer,

10 characterized in that said ligand X has been selected among  
15 serum albumin-binding structures complying with the formulae



20 in which

a) the free valence bind to the spacer B;

b)  $R_{1-4}$  are selected from hydrogen, electron-withdrawing groups,  
such as halogens and lower alkyl groups ( $C_{1-10}$ ) that possibly  
are substituted with electron withdrawing groups, such as  
25 halogens;

c) Z and Y are selected among oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen, with  
the provision that the nitrogen may carry a positive charge.

2. The method according to claim 1, characterized in that contact between the mixture and the media M-B-X is done in an aqueous media having a pH at which the -B-X carries a positive charge.
3. The method according to anyone of claims 1-2, characterized in that at least one of R1-4 exhibit an electron withdrawing group, preferably selected among halogens such as fluorine.
4. The method according to anyone of claims 1-3, characterized in that the spacer have a sulphur atom next to X.
5. The method according to any one of claims 1-4, characterized in that Z and Y are nitrogens, one of which binding to a hydrogen and the ligand structure being charged depending of pH.
6. The method of anyone of claims 1-5, characterized in that said mixture derives from a host in which said serum albumin is human serum albumin.
7. The method of anyone of claims 1-6, characterized in that said ligand is attached covalently to said matrix.
8. The method of anyone of claims 1-7, characterized in that after the adsorption step said serum albumin is eluted from said affinity adsorbent and if necessary further processed.
9. A method for screening for ligands structures that, when attached to an affinity matrix, selectively bind albumin, (characterized, that) water-soluble compounds (that exhibit) a benzene-ring fused to a 5-membered heterocycle containing two

or three heteroatoms, <sup>20</sup>(preferably) two, selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur after having been attached to (a) matrix, (preferably) in the 2-position, are screened for selective binding to albumin.

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10. The method of claim 9, (characterized in that) screening is taking place in aqueous solutions at a pH at which (the ligand structure including and spacer binding to the matrix) is positively charged.

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